

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Jason Peter BROWN

Art Unit: 1633

Application No.: 10/511,515

Examiner: LI, Qian Janice

Filing Date: December 19, 2005

Attorney Ref. No.: 060-004

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING
IMMORTALISED
ANTIBODIES-SECRETING CELLS

Confirmation No.: 4660

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 19, 2008, which set a 1-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, applicants hereby elect **Group I, claims 1-29 and 35**, drawn to a method for producing immortalized antibody-secreting cells. Also, regarding the election of species, applicants hereby elect the Rheogene promoter system, which is discussed in paragraphs [0081] to [0085] of the U.S. patent application publication (US2007/0130628). For election of a specific transgene product, Applicants elect the myc gene in a mouse in which the tumor suppressor gene p53 had been deleted (p53 -/- double deletion mutant).

These elections are made with traverse, as each of these elections are simply illustrations of one embodiment of the invention and that (as discussed and illustrated in the application) other species (both promoters, transgenes and strains of mice which may already be transgenic) could be combined to achieve the same outcome. The invention relates to the approach of using a combination of elements in a transgenic mouse to achieve

the objective of immortalizing all antibody secreting B cells to achieve access to a greater diversity of antibodies. These elections are made with traverse as applicants assert that it would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner, nor constitute a non-coextensive search, to examine all the claims together.

If Examiner Li believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, she is invited to call on the number below.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and the undersigned hereby authorizes any fees for said petition be charged to our deposit account 50-2821.

Respectfully submitted,



Shelly Guest Cermak
Reg. No. 39,571

Date: December 19, 2008

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